

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108987

FOLLOWING REPEAT CARACAS 4586 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN NY

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QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 4586

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG AORG SPOP

SUBJ: ECLA REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR LATIN AMERICA ON THE INTEGRATION OF
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO POPULATION
FACTORS, APRIL 28 - MAY 2

1. SUMMARY: TRANSMITTING TEXT OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT DECLARATION SUB-
MITTED BY THE DELEGATION OF MEXICO. COMMENTS FOLLOW CONCERNING
ATTITUDES AND ACTION IN SEMINAR. REQUEST IMMEDIATE ADVICE RE
CERDS FROM IO/BLAKE/POOLE BEFORE FRIDAY PLENARY. END SUMMARY

2. MEXICAN DEL STATED "WE SHOULD DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO
LATIN AMERICA." REJECTED THE BASIS FOR A PLAN OF ACTION PREPARED AS
A GUIDE LINE BY SIPIA SECRETARIAT BECAUSE IT WAS BASED ON THE
EXPERIENCES IN THE ECA AND ESCAP. SAID THE FIRST TWO DAYS DISCUSSION
INDICATED THAT POPULATION IS NOT THE SUBJECT OF OUR CONCERNS. WE
SHOULD DISCUSS THE AREAS OF CONCERN IN LATIN AMERICA.

3. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECLA ENRIQUE IGLESIAS ON WEDNESDAY (HE
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ARRIVED LATE) STATED IN PLENARY "THERE IS NO REGIONAL PLAN OF
ACTION ON POPULATION. THE SECRETARIAT OF ECLA ARE AWARE OF THE
DIFFERENT CONDITIONS IN THE REGION." HE SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE
MOST HELPFUL TO ECLA IF SEMINAR ESTABLISHED (1) GENERAL PRINCIPLES

FOR WCIWY AND (2) SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GUIDANCE TO ECLA TO BE PRESENTED AT PORT-OF-SPAIN.

4. ATTITUDE OF ECLA SECRETARIAT AND MANY DELEGATES THAT CONCLUSIONS OF GROUP SHOULD ONLY BE THOSE OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES THEMSELVES. US DEL TOLD PRIVATELY BY SIPILA THAT ECLA SECRETARIAT HAD MADE REPEATED ATTEMPTS TO KEEP POPULATION FACTORS OUT OF SEMINAR TITLE.

5. WORKING GROUP ONE BROKE INTO SMALL SUB-GROUPS AND ATTEMPTED TO PLACE US, FRANCE, CANADA IN OBSERVER STATUS. CANADA ASKED FOR OFFICIAL READING OF MEMBERSHIP LIST. PROCEDURES DISORGANIZED. EVENTUALLY REFORMED INTO ONE BODY.

6. WORKING GROUP ONE MANEUVERED BY CANADA TO SUCCESSFULLY BY-PASS MEXICAN PRELIMINARY DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND GROUP PROCEEDED DIRECTLY TO DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS FOR ACTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO ECLA.

7. US DEL IN WORKING GROUP ONE PROPOSED THAT ECLA TAKE NOTE OF UN POPULATION COMMISSION 18TH SESSION RESOLUTION ON POPULATION, THE STATUS OF WOMEN, AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT ACCEPTED BY SECOND COMMITTEE OF CURRENT ECOSOC SESSION. US DEL MENTIONED ECLA GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT SEMINAR WHO HAD ADOPTED RESOLUTION IN UN COMMISSION AND STRESSED THAT ALL GOVERNMENTS HAD ADOPTED WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION WHICH COVERED ALL ITEMS UNDER CURRENT DISCUSSION. SIPILA ASSURED US DEL THE RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE RECORDED IN SEMINAR PROCEEDINGS EVEN THO GROUP ONE ATTEMPTED TO VOTE IT DOWN. DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON OPENING DAY THAT NO VOTES WOULD BE TAKEN. US DEL OBJECTED TO SECRETARIAT ON ACTION OF GROUP ONE.

8. WORKING GROUP TWO SPENT MORNING DEBATING FORMAT. MEXICAN DEL PRESENTED PRELIMINARY DRAFT DECLARATION IN AFTERNOON. VENEZUELA PRESENTED FORMULATION WITH BRIEF STATEMENT OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES MOVING DIRECTLY TO SPECIFIC MEASURES TO ACHIEVE EQUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WOMEN AND THE FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. VENEZUELA LATER WITHDREW THEIR FORMAT BECAUSE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS WITH CUBAN DEL WHO ACCUSED VENEZUELAN DEL OF DESERTING REGIONAL SOLIDARITY ON NIEO AND CERDS AND CHALLENGED VALIDITY OF SPEAKER AS LEGITIMATE DELEGATE. SHE WAS LISTED AS OFFICIAL DELEGATE. MEXICAN DRAFT DECLARATION THEN ONLY DOCUMENT UNDER CONSIDERATION.

9. US DEL SUPPORTED IN GENERAL POSITION EXPRESSING DISAPPROVAL THAT DECLARATION DID NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH MANDATE OF SEMINAR BECAUSE IT PRE-EMPTED MANDATE BY DISCUSSION OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS. DECLARATION PRE-EMPTED CONSIDERATION OF EQUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. MANY DELEGATES APPEARED NOT TO GRASP POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF DECLARATION.

10. ON PARAGRAPH 9, SECTION D OF DECLARATION, US DEL SUGGESTED REVISED WORDING. AFTER "CONSTITUTES" FURTHER SUGGESTED FOOTNOTE "REFERENCE TO THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS INDICATING A CHANGE IN THE POSITION OF DELEGATIONS ON THE CHARTER AS STATED AT THE 29TH SESSION OF GA". US DEL PREFACED STATEMENT ON 9 D BY REFERRING TO PARAGRAPH 3 OF DECLARATION AND POINTED OUT THAT THESE MATTERS WOULD BE CONSIDERED AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF GA IN SEPTEMBER. POINTED OUT THAT INSERTION AND FOOTNOTE REFLECTED TRUE INTERPRETATION OF CERDS IN WORLD VIEW. UK RESERVED ON CERDS PARA.

11. US DEL POINTED OUT THAT WOMEN CURRENTLY DON'T SHARE IN DEVELOPMENT FUNDS EITHER NATIONALLY, BILATERALLY, OR MULTILATERALLY. WOMEN WILL NOT BENEFIT FROM CHANGES IN WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. THEREFORE REAL PROBLEMS OF WOMEN MUST BE ADDRESSED: NAMELY, EQUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, FULL INTEGRATION INTO DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ATTAINMENT OF LEADERSHIP POSITIONS TO IMPACT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CHANGE.

12. WORKING GROUPS RECONVENE THURSDAY A.M. OPEN ENDED DRAFTING COMMITTEES. US, COLOMBIAN, AND VENEZUELAN DELS WILL PRESS FOR SPECIFIC MEASURES ON INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION.

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